

INTELLIGENCE

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Secret Meeting of the Metropolitan Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Metropolitan Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil (PCB) held a secret meeting on 26-27 April 1950 at an isolated house in the State of Rio de Janeiro. The participants who were positively identified were as follows:

Arcelina Rodrigues Mochel Goto, physician, Communist women's leader in Rio, who attended the Mexico City Congress for Peace and Democracy (1)

Salomao Tabak, manager of Editorial Vitoria and a member of the PCB Education and Propaganda Committee (2)

Aloisio Neiva Filho, former PCB councilman for the Federal District, elected Alternate member of the PCB Metropolitan Committee in October 1948 (3)

Alvaro Ventura, formerly reported to be a national officer of the PCB. (4)

Those tentatively identified were:

Diogenes Lopes de Arruda Camara, Communist Federal Deputy elected on the ticket of the PSP

Benedito de Carvalho, reported in 1947 to be National Treasurer of the PCB (5)

Antonio Luciano Bacelar Couto, member of the Executive Committee of the Uniao Sindical dos Trabalhadores do Distrito Federal and for several years a member of the PCB Metropolitan Committee (6)

Jorge Medauar, reported to be secretary of the Communist monthly magazine Literatura when it first appeared in Rio in September 1946, and to be on a PCB List of Friends

"Felipe" (7)

Roberto Morena. (8)

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2. Those attending the meeting arrived at the rendezvous in pairs shortly after 10:00 on the night of 26 April, taking care not to be observed. At about 11:30 rifles, revolvers, and hunting knives were distributed, and each person was instructed in the use of his weapon and assigned to a particular position in the event of an emergency. (There were eight cases of ammunition on hand.) After this rehearsal, Arcelina Mochel Goto, the only woman present, retired to the caretaker's house, and the men spent the night at the meeting place.
3. The next day's meeting began in the morning and lasted until 8:00 o'clock in the evening, Arruda Camara presiding. The first part was devoted to an uninterrupted, twenty-minute analysis of the agenda by each person. As a result of the general discussion following this part of the meeting, it was decided to take up the following points in order:
 - a. Pro-Peace Movement
 - b. Movement to Repudiate the Atom Bomb
 - c. The Syndical Tax
 - d. Commemoration of May Day
 - e. Metropolitan Syndical Conference
 - f. Criticism and Self-Criticism.

There follows a digest of the discussions under each heading.

4. Pro-Peace Movement. This was considered to be the foremost Communist campaign in the world today and the one with the best chance of appealing to the masses. It will of necessity vary in each country according to conditions, but the basic points brought out by the meeting in Stockholm of the World Committee of Partisans of Peace must be followed by each. In Brazil, the problem is simple, since the PCB uses front organizations exclusively for the work. The PCB's goal is to exploit the prestige of as many non-Communist, prominent Brazilians as possible, such as Oswaldo Aranha, and to obtain the signatures of a great number of prominent people in support of the movement.
5. The PCB must completely control the peace movement. The Metropolitan Committee, as well as the National Directorate, must devote more time and energy to this end, and all militant Party members must work fanatically. Communists, knowing that war is inevitable, must prepare for it, but they must see to it that the democracies prepare for peace. The present front organizations in Brazil are unsatisfactory as they have not created the desired response from the masses and therefore will be replaced by a new organization, the Frente da Paz (Peace Front), which will not limit itself exclusively to words. Innumerable conferences and public meetings will be arranged to keep the problem before the people. The Brazilian workers will be taught to follow the example of the French workers who can paralyze all industry by striking in protest against war preparations.
6. Movement to repudiate the atom bomb. The primary objective of the movement against the atom bomb is to convince the people that the North Americans possess this weapon in order to demoralize the masses and wage another world war. Secondly it will disseminate propaganda showing the Soviet Union to be beneficent. The committee passed the following resolutions on this subject: 1) Connect the atom bomb movement with the fight to prevent the national wealth from falling

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into the hands of the imperialists. The campaigns in connection with petroleum, monazite sands, the Hileia Amazonica, etc., should be conducted as separate campaigns, but all must emphasize the movement against capitalism and for the USSR; 2) publicize caricatures of President Dutra playing into the hands of imperialist politicians; 3) spread propaganda in every possible way depicting the terrors of the atom bomb; 4) obtain a minimum of 4,000 signatures of prominent people on a petition repudiating the atom bomb; 5) expose the activities of the American Embassy and its agents who are operating in the various states of Brazil.

7. The National Directorate was criticized for not securing more cooperation from the masses. Arcelina Mochel Goto criticized the Metropolitan Committee, also, for not giving the proper direction to this work and demanded that it meet more frequently to make and execute plans. It was decided to create a new organism to be known as the Comissao de Massas to be composed of the secretaries of masses in each of the Party units.
8. The Syndical Tax. The fight against the increase of the syndical tax is one with a popular appeal, which should be tied in with other related movements such as the demand for higher wages and shorter working hours. In this connection, the strike and slow-down should be resorted to more often. It was decided that this movement required the attention of the secretaries of the masses, and until this phase of the Party organism is reorganized (see above) little could be done by the Metropolitan Committee other than to keep the matter under study.
9. Commemoration of May Day. Owing to the short time until May Day and to anticipated police interference, it was decided to abandon plans for any large public meetings or demonstrations. Instructions were to be given instead for holding as many "lightning meetings" as possible, especially in front of factories and business houses, and encouraging the usual painting of walls and distributing of propaganda.
10. Metropolitan Syndical Conference. A resolution was adopted directing the Communists to launch a propaganda campaign on 12 May in favor of the syndical movement and, to further this, a Metropolitan Syndical Conference was to be established. The Party was to be cautioned not to forget the importance of propaganda; for example, the CTAL Conference in Montevideo was not satisfactorily publicized.
11. Discussion of the syndical tax led to a severe criticism of Luciano Bacelar Couto, Propaganda Secretary of the Metropolitan Committee. This was based largely on Couto's failure to organize a program properly and on his inability to give instructions to the workers. Couto defended himself, stating that he had established the proper orientation with the masses, but that, owing to circumstances, it was impossible to perform this work efficiently.
12. Critica and Auto Critica. Near the close of the meeting the work of Aloisio Neiva Filho, Secretary of the Masses of the Metropolitan Committee, was very severely criticized by Diogenes de Arruda Camara, Salomao Tabak, and Benedito de Carvalho. Neiva was accused of devoting too much time to his personal affairs and ignoring the important task assigned him by the PCB. Neiva admitted his lack of comprehension of the vast program of the PCB and his inability to coordinate the various Communist movements so that they could be presented to the masses. However, he criticized the work of other Party members, accusing them of indifference to their work. After further criticism of Neiva, the

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latter suggested that the committee appoint another person to replace him as Secretary of the Masses. Arcelina Mochel Goto presented a resolution that the charges against Neiva should be prepared by two members of the committee and considered within the next twenty days.

13. Arcelina Mochel Goto upbraided two members of the committee who were absent and called for strong disciplinary action against them for placing personal affairs over Party matters.

(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)
(6)
(7)

3)

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Possibly Pedro Ventura Felipe de Araujo Pomar, Communist Federal Deputy elected on the PSP ticket.

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(8)

Comment.

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Morena was in that city from 24-27 April, reporting to the police for his periodic 3-day check-up, and making and receiving telephone calls at the local Union General de Trabajadores (UGT).

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